



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mr Barrie Davies
Section 151 Officer
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
The Pavilions
Clydach Vale
Tonypany
CF40 2XX

11 February 2021

Dear Barrie Davies

Variation to: Award letter dated 7th July 2020
Award of Funding in relation to Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant
2020 -2021- Central South Consortium – 04/2020

I can confirm that we are content to increase the Funding awarded to Rhondda Cynon Taff County Council in delivering the above grant award by a further £422,335 for 20/21. The increased funding is to support:

- i) National Professional Qualification for Headship - £175,500
- ii) The National Evaluation and Improvement Resource - £12,000
- iii) Professional Journey - £14,700
- iv) A Level revision resources £9,000
- v) The Well-being Partnership Programme (Coaching and mentoring element) - £38,635
- vi) The Well-being Partnership Programme – (Accreditation) - £22,500
- vii) Wales Collaborative for Learning Design (WCLD) - Remote Asynchronous - £50,000
- viii) WCLD - Synchronous/Live strand - £50,000
- ix) Support for assessment and centre determined grades (CDG) - £50,000

With effect from 11 February 2021 unless otherwise stated, the Funding Agreement shall be varied as follows:

The appended Schedule 1 wording, shall be added to the existing Schedule 1 wording of Award of Funding letter dated 7 July 2020.

The appended Schedule 5 wording, shall be added to the existing Schedule 5 of Award of Funding letter dated 7 July 2020.

In Condition 7 (Your general obligations to us) insert the following:

- (i) notify us of any funding received by you from any source in relation to the effects of the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) including but not limited to your

insurance provider (cancellation/business disruption insurance), the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and/or any Welsh Government fund/scheme.

In Condition 8 (Declarations) replace with:

(g) Acceptance of this award of Funding will not result in duplicate funding in respect of any part of the Purposes. This includes but is not limited to any payments received by you in relation to the effects of the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from your insurance provider (cancellation/business disruption insurance), the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and/or any Welsh Government fund/scheme.

In Schedule 3 (Notification Events) insert the following:

21. there is a duplication of funding in respect of any part of the Purposes This includes but is not limited to any payments received by you in relation to the effects of the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from your insurance provider (cancellation/business disruption insurance), the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and/or any Welsh Government fund/scheme;

This brings the total amount allocated for Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2020-21 to £43,274,835 for 2020/21.

Except as expressly varied in this letter, the Award of Funding shall continue in full force and effect.

None of the additional funding will be paid to you until we have received your signed letter. We must receive your signed letter within 14 working days or the additional funding will automatically be withdrawn.

Please return the signed copy of this letter to us by email to natasha.burton@gov.wales

A scanned PDF of the signed letter is preferred, but it must be returned from the email address of the project manager named in the original grant award letter dated 7 July 2020.

Yours sincerely



Signed by Neal O'Leary
under authority of the Minister for Education
one of the Welsh Minister



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SCHEDULE 1 **(Additional to Schedule 1 of the Grant award letter 7 July 2020)**

National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) – Terms and Conditions

As a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic the regions were asked to consider how best to deliver the Aspiring Heads and NPQH assessment to ensure we continued to have a flow of potential heads coming through. As a result the Programme was split into 2 aspects Assessment Only for the NPQH award which would include Assessment of the NPQH and also ensure that candidates would be allocated a learning coach to support them. ***The aspiring Heads programme was developed into an on line programme and would start from January 2021 will continue to deliver the Wellbeing partnership Project until July 2021.***

Assessment Only

The funding for the Assessment only is to ensure that candidates are allocated a leadership coach and also provide a panel for assessment of the NPQH award that is directly linked to the Professional Standards for Teaching and Leadership as well as the current curriculum reforms. Both are key aspects of the action plan to equip Wales with inspirational leaders who can work collaboratively and are committed to raising standards and reducing the attainment gap. It is therefore vitally important that the next generation of head teachers are developed and supported to ensure that they are equipped to face the challenges of headship and to embed the role of head teachers as leaders of change in our system.

Aspiring Heads Programme

To deliver development programme of development including national development days each term starting in January 2021.

As part of this funding you will be expected to:

- maintain the quality threshold so that candidates are only accepted onto the programme that have a high likelihood of successfully completing and progressing to a headship position (assuming one is available) within 2 years;
- take into account any pressure points and areas of need (such as the need for Welsh Medium heads) when considering candidates and prioritise appropriately; and,
- ensure consistency of delivery across the regions and they are in line with the Professional Standards for Leadership.

The next Aspiring Heads Programme following the one starting in January 2021, will not begin before April 2022.

<u>NPQH Assessment Only</u>

Region	Total Candidate Number	Total funding
EAS	8	24000
CSC	27	81000
ERW	17	51000
GwE	9	27000
Total	61	183,000

Based on funding £3000 per candidate to include Leadership Coach, Assessors, assessment centre

Aspiring Heads Programme – leading to NPQH Assessment in February 2022
(funding for Assessment in 2022 to be confirmed December 2021)

<u>Aspiring Heads Programme</u>		
Region	Total Candidate Number	Total funding
EAS	28	42000
CSC	63	94500
ERW	76	114000
GwE	75	112500
Total	242	363000

<u>Regional Funding</u>		
Region	NPQH AO and Aspiring Heads Programme	Total funding
EAS	8+28	66000
CSC	27+63	175500
ERW	17+76	165000
GwE	9+75	139500
Total		546,000

Funding includes NPT candidates.



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The National Evaluation and Improvement Resource

PURPOSE

Working with Estyn, Regional Consortia and Schools to develop a resource to support school self-evaluation and improvement.

Case study resources of school development journeys are to be produced to exemplify different method of self-evaluation, focus on different groups of prompts and to reinforce the message of a school owned process, rather than for accountability purposes.

Regional consortia to support schools in the ongoing development of case study resources.

The resource and case studies will be hosted on a series of dedicated web pages on Hwb, designed for easy and intuitive access with links to other projects such as the professional learning journey, schools as learning organisations, NPEP etc.

The funding for direct award to schools is allocated to fulfil the following purposes:

- To fund schools to develop case studies on the following:
 - Methods of self-evaluation
 - Effective use of data
 - Engaging stakeholders in the self-evaluation process
- To fund phase 1 and phase 2 NEIR schools to develop case studies around using the self-evaluation prompts, with particular focus on the prompts supporting development of the new curriculum for Wales
- To run a quality assurance group to verify the resources produced align to the messaging and purpose of the NEIR.

TARGETS

Description of target	Achievement date	Evidence required
Schools to develop case study playlists of development journeys using NEIR prompts	Spring 2021	Playlists completed
Schools to develop case study playlists on effective self-evaluation, use of data and engaging with stakeholders	Spring 2021	Playlists completed
Regions to undertake support sessions with schools	Spring 2021	Feedback to NEIR project team
Regions and WG to quality assure case studies and website content	Easter 2021	Case studies refined following feedback
Regions to suggest additional self-review tools to align to NEIR	Spring 2021	List of links to other self-review

		tools/resources on web pages
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Professional Learning Journey 2

PURPOSE

PLJ2 schools nominated by the region to develop additional case study resources of school development journeys to align to the professional learning journey model to support the wider schools network with preparation for the new curriculum. Regions to support ongoing work and engagement of PLJ2 schools.

The funding for direct award to schools is allocated to fulfil the following purposes:

- To provide supply cover funding for schools to release staff to attend development workshops
- To provide supply cover funding for schools to curate resources and assemble them in a Hwb playlist
- To fund supply cover for a reference group of schools to undertake quality assurance activities.

TARGETS (for PLJ2 schools)

Description of target	Achievement date	Evidence required
Attend a series of regional development workshops for schools involved in the project.	Autumn and spring terms 2020/21 – see Teams pages for PLJ2	PLJ2 schools engage in the training and creation of storyboards and playlists for their development journey
Attend virtual playlist training events	Nov 2020, Dec 2020, Jan 2021	
Development of playlist resources outlining school development journeys	Tranche 1 schools: April 2021 Tranche 2 schools: June 2021	
Schools support outreach work to develop PLJ2 resources that reinforce messages from the assessment team	April 2021	Schools create Hwb playlists Schools complete Hwb playlists Schools support playlist development



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A Level revision resources

£9,000 to go direct to Fitzalan High School to deliver a range of revision resources to support learners studying Government and Politics at A Level.

The well-being Partnership Programme

The Regional Consortia in partnership will

- a) Local Authorities and Regional Consortia to identify existing provision available, identify and redress any gaps, and raise awareness of what currently exists.
- b) Local Authorities, Regional Consortia and MIND provide mental health first aid training to every school and regional consortia staff ; all schools will have a trained mental Health first aider.
- c) Consortia and Local Authorities to provide a coach to all Heads that require one where applicable.

Funding

Each Regional Consortia will receive the following funding to ensure that the above can be delivered:-

Accreditation

Region	Funding
EAS	£22,500
CSC	£22,500
ERW	£22,500
GWE	£22,500

Total Funding allocation £90,000

Region	Funding
EAS	£38,635
CSC	£38,635
ERW	£46,363
GWE	£46,363

Total Funding allocation £169,996

Please note funding for Neath Port Talbot is included in the ERW funding allocation

In addition to the above the Regional consortium in partnership will

- a) Develop and deliver bespoke wellbeing webinars available to all staff, senior managers and headteachers

- b) Working with the National Academy for Educational Leadership (NAEL) will develop compassionate principles for leaders based on the NHS model and explore how these can be linked to the 4 purposes and the Professional standards
- c) Working with all Local Authorities will develop a programme of recognition for Well Being.

These national elements will be managed and administered by EAS on behalf of all the Regional Consortia. This funding will continue to deliver the Wellbeing partnership Project until July 2021.

Funding

EAS only (on behalf of all Regional consortia) £80,000

The National Evaluation and Improvement Resource

PURPOSE

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Regional consortia to support schools in the ongoing development of case study resources.

The resource and case studies will be hosted on a series of dedicated web pages on Hwb, designed for easy and intuitive access with links to other projects such as the professional learning journey, schools as learning organisations, NPEP etc.

The funding for direct award to schools is allocated to fulfil the following purposes:

- To fund schools to develop case studies on the following:
 - Methods of self-evaluation
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Wales Collaborative for Learning Design (WCLD)

Remote Asynchronous Learning Design strand (RALD) and Synchronous/Live strand (Professional Learning)

Regions will facilitate two new work streams to enable national equity and access to a core offer of Professional Learning (PL), specifically:

- the facilitation of a programme of PL and a range of support materials and approaches to equip practitioners to deliver high quality remote asynchronous learning (WCLD/RALD)
- the facilitation of a programme of PL and a range of support materials and approaches to equip practitioners to deliver high quality synchronous learning experiences (SLE)

PL will be delivered at regional level using existing networks and approaches.

Deliverable include:

- Open access, as appropriate, to consortia PL resources and platforms for all practitioners across Wales with a 'map' of all available support.

- In collaboration with practitioners and other partners, the regions will coordinate and facilitate the development of resources and practitioner led PL in support of the quality assurance and self-evaluation of distance and blended learning.
- The development of a national PL programme, delivered locally, designed and delivered in collaboration with practitioners. The programme will focus on the universal provision for distance and blended learning and will utilise the resources produced by CDSM and include abridged versions of the units with additional guidance to support practitioners.
- The development of a national PL programme designed, delivered locally, and delivered in collaboration with practitioners. The programme will focus on specific provision around the delivery of synchronous learning as one element of the blended approach to distance learning. The programme will focus on specific key stages and subjects and will be relevant to, and developed by, practitioners in collaboration with consortia central staff and other middle tier partners

TARGETS

Description of the Target	Date by when it should be achieved?	Evidence required
Support for WCLD/RALD	March 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Programme established with digital assets created 2. Evidence of engagement in PL programme across all regions 3. Range of schools/practitioners engaged in the CDSM RALD modules
Support for Synchronous Learning Experiences (SLE)	March 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Programme established with digital assets created 2. Evidence of engagement in PL programme across all regions



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Support for assessment and centre determined grades (CDG)

- To ensure schools are made aware of key messages from WG and from QW and WJEC on the assessment process for awarding centre determined grades
- To feed back to WG on schools' approaches to the process, including challenges, at an early stage
- To promote the sharing of practice between schools regionally and nationally
- To support schools through the process of CDG awarding, as identified by the Design and Delivery Advisory Group and the QW/WJEC agreed process
- To facilitate Professional Learning in key features of assessment for qualification, in partnership with other organisations as appropriate

TWO SIGNATORIES ARE REQUIRED

We hereby accept this additional award of Funding in relation to Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2020 -2021- Central South Consortium **(issued 11 February 2021)**

An authorised signatory of Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

Signature

Name

Job Title

Date

An authorised signatory of Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

Signature

Name

Job Title

Date

An authorised signatory of Central South Consortium

Name

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